



DENVER: State of the City Profile

CENSUS / DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Denver Consolidated Metro Area (surrounding cities).....	2,581,506
Denver Primary Metro Area (surrounding counties).....	2,109,282
Denver County.....	554,636
City of Denver	554,636

Racial composition of Denver County: white (65%), black (11%), Asian (3%), Other (17%), two or more (4%)
ETHNICITY: Hispanic (of any race) 32%

DRUG SITUATION & PREVALENCE

- **YOUTH PREVALENCE:** Denver does not collect data on youth drug use prevalence.
- **ARRESTEES:** ADAM data indicate that 62% of adult male arrestees and 64% of adult female arrestees in 2001 tested positive for at least one illicit substance.
- **DEATHS:** Drug-induced deaths in the PMSA decreased 12% from 178 in 1995 to 157 in 1998 (9.8 to 8.1 deaths per 100,000 population).
- **ER MENTIONS (1997-2001):** Heroin/morphine mentions increased 45%; cocaine mentions increased 125%; marijuana mentions increased by 675%; methamphetamine mentions increased 217%.
- **DRUG TYPE:** In the last 6 months of 2002, powder cocaine was replaced by meth as the drug with the most serious consequences; marijuana and meth are considered the most widely abused drugs; meth has intensified as a drug problem; ecstasy and other club drugs and diverted Oxycontin are emerging drug problems.

FEDERAL DOLLARS ('01 / '02)

- **SAPT Block Grant:** \$8.5M / \$9.0M
- **CSAP Discretion:** \$547K / \$466K
- **CSAT Discretion:** \$957K / \$2.4M

TREATMENT UTILIZATION & CAPACITY

- 94 treatment providers located in the Denver PMSA;
- 79 providers list outpatient departments as treatment modalities.
- Denver has two (2) drug courts in operation

MEDIA CAMPAIGN

- Advertising: \$1.7M total plus pro bono value match:
 - \$1.3M share of national buy
 - \$104K multicultural advertising
 - \$328K local general market
- Non-Advertising:
 - Marijuana & Kids Media Roundtable (Oct 16)
 - Marijuana Press Conf Outreach (Sept 17)
 - Majority Rules in Denver Post
 - RADAR Conference

PREVENTION Community Coalitions

- Near Westside Prevention Coalition
- Connecting Colorado Prevention Coalition
- Westminster Area Community Awareness Action Team

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Drug arrests more than doubled between '91 and '95 and peaked in '98.
- Drug arrests have since declined, although the number of drug arrests in 2001 was double the number made 10 years earlier.
- Between 1996 and 2000, Denver police made drug arrests at a rate of 1,234 per 100,000 city residents (more than twice the national average). The majority of these drug arrests (93%) were for possession offenses.²⁶
- Between 1996 and 2000, nearly 1,000 violent crimes and 7,200 property crimes linked to alcohol and drugs were committed each year in Denver.
- As of October 2001, there were 1,850 total law enforcement employees in Denver (1,514 officers and 336 civilians).
- Rocky Mountain HIDTA